$100,000 CIO FUND TO BEAT DIES REVEALED

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Harvey Fremming, S.F. Unionist, Tells Texan Money Raised to Purge Him From Congress

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Chairman Martin Dies of the Committee Investigating un-American Activities today revealed a CIO official had served notice on him that a $100,000 fund was going to be spent in the coming Texas primary elections in a drive to purge him from the House.

Harvey Fremming of San Francisco, head of the CIO's oil and refinery workers union, delivered the message personally to Dies. Before Dies became chairman of the special House committee, he and Fremming were close friends.

NEW DEAL AIDS FIGHT.

Fremming told International News Service he had discussed the Texan's political situation with Dies, and predicted "there will be plenty of candidates against him, including those backed by the CIO." He intimated aid might come from high New Deal quarters.

He denied he would lead the campaign to oust Dies from his seat in the second Texas district, but frankly said that a high official, probably Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, would be the brains behind it.

Dies said Fremming warned him the strategy to be employed was designed to force him into the runoff primary in Texas, with all candidates defeated in the first primary to indorse his opponent.

TWO RIVALS SOUGHT.

Two strong CIO candidates, one from the highly industrialized city of Beaumont, and the other from the oil shipping port of Port Arthur, are to be selected to run against Dies under the plan.

Candidates in rural sections of the district are slated to be put in the July 27 primary to cut down Dies' strength among the conservative element. With these supporting Dies' opponent in the August run-off, the CIO backers of the purge plan expect their leading candidate to win.

Fremming intimated to Dies, the Texan said, that Grady Hor-

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ton, a CIO leader at Beaumont, was one of the likely candidates.

AD CAMPAIGN MAPPED.

"Fremming also told me," Dies said, "that the plan was to break me if they did not beat me. He said large sums of money would be spent in advertisements in small county and weekly newspapers, and pointed out that the CIO candidates undoubtedly would receive editorial support as a result.

"I informed my friend Fremming, that I would accept the challenge," Dies declared. "I told him that regardless of any campaign against me, I would continue the investigation of un-American activities courageously and without fear of favor."

Fremming said it would be "a strange analogy if Dies was purged by President Roosevelt as President Wilson purged his father." Dies' father retired from the second Texas district after leading an unsuccessful fight in the House against Wilson's plans to enter the World War.

DIES INFORMED.

"Dies knows the CIO is after him," Fremming said, after he had talked with the Texan. Immediately after his conference with Dies, Fremming had lunch in the House restaurant with Harold Weisberg, who admitted to the Dies committee that he had paid $105 to David D. Mayne for forged documents used in the abortive attempt by Representative Hook, Democrat of Michigan, to "smear" the Dies committee.

Dies happened to enter the restaurant at the time. Fremming and Weisberg acknowledged his greeting.

Recounting the incident, Dies asserted that "Weisberg, who negotiated for the documents forged over William Dudley Pelley's (silver shirt leader) signature by Mayne, was discharged from the La Follette civil liberties committee for giving confidential matter to the Daily Worker, the leading Communist newspaper in the country."